



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FAMILY TREE PARTNERS WITH U OF M TO OFFER LGBT ELECTIVE

Family Tree Clinic will be the clinical site, supporting medical students in their development of understanding and cultural competency with LGBTQ communities.

SAINT PAUL, MN, JULY 16, 2018 –

Family Tree is excited to announce we will be partnering with the University of Minnesota's Medical School to offer the first ever LGBT elective to medical students. Family Tree clinic will be one of two clinical sites, supporting medical students in developing cultural responsiveness and ability to work with LGBTQ communities. The elective will start September 2018.

The LGBT elective at the University of Minnesota Medical School is one of the very few in the country to train medical students in the issues and sensitivities relating to LGBT patients. It is designed to educate competent and sensitive medical providers who are attuned to the concerns and health of the LGBT community.

“We’re thrilled to be launching the first of its kind LGBT Elective at the University of Minnesota, and to have this opportunity to partner with Family Tree Clinic to support future providers to develop their LGBTQ competency” said Dr. Michael Ross, Professor and Chair in Sexual Health Education, Program in Human Sexuality, Department of Family Medicine and Community Health, University of Minnesota Medical School.

This innovative course will help students gain an understanding of health risks experienced by LGBTQ individuals. Students will practice assessing sexual orientation, gender identity, and sexual health and discuss specific health concerns and treatment options to provide culturally responsive care. Students will have the opportunity to hear from LGBTQ individuals, both patients and physicians, and learn from their experiences.

“We believe that training future providers is systems change,” said Alissa Light, Executive Director of Family Tree clinic. “This kind of immersive education has a deep ripple effect, inspiring other colleagues and health care workforce professionals to develop their awareness of and commitment to culturally responsive care.”

Through this unique elective and partnership, Family Tree and the University of Minnesota Medical School will support our next generation of medical providers to create clinical care environments in which our communities feel safe, seen, respected, and get the care they need and deserve.

About Family Tree Clinic

Family Tree has long been a leader in LGBTQ inclusive health care and boundary-pushing comprehensive sexuality education, serving the Twin Cities, the state and the Upper Midwest. Family Tree provides sexual and reproductive health services, limited primary care, trans hormone care, operates the MN Family Planning + STD Hotline, and provides education services across the state. They serve over 22,000 people each year.

Contact: Wen Brovold | 651-272-3552 | wbrovold@familytreeclinic.org | FamilyTreeClinic.org

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